

PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

320 W. 4TH STREET, SUITE 500
LOS ANGELES, CA 90013



September 17, 2015

File Number: XREQ 2015080004
Indian Canyon Drive OH
City of Palm Springs, Riverside County

Marcus Fuller
City Engineer
City of Palm Springs
3200 E. Tahquitz Canyon Way
Palm Springs, CA 92262

SENT VIA E-MAIL

Re: General Order 88-B Request for Authority to Modify the Indian Canyon Drive Overhead Grade-Separated Highway-Rail Crossing, Identified as CPUC Crossing Number 001B-588.30-A, and DOT Number 760705M, in the City of Palm Springs, Riverside County.

Dear Mr. Fuller:

This refers to your letter, dated August 13, 2015, received by us on August 28, 2015, requesting authorization, pursuant to California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC/Commission) General Order (GO) 88-B, to modify the grade-separated Indian Canyon Drive Overhead and the Union Pacific Railroad Company (UPRR) tracks highway-rail crossing (crossing), in the City of Palm Springs (City), Riverside County. The crossing is identified by CPUC Crossing Number 001B-588.30-A, DOT Numbers 760705M.

The crossing consists of a two lane bridge, one south bound and one north bound that cross over the UPRR tracks. The City proposes the following modifications to the crossing by adding lanes to help alleviate local and regional traffic congestion and provide dedicated pedestrian and bicycle access:

- Remove the existing overhead structure, and;
- Construct new overhead structure to accommodate three lanes in each direction.

The project proposes a temporary impaired vertical clearance requirement from Commission GO 26-D during construction of 21-feet. UPRR operates freight trains on this line and owns the right of way. UPRR is in agreement with the temporary impaired vertical clearance. All proposed permanent clearances will comply with Commission GO 26-D minimum clearance requirements.

Pursuant to Commission Resolution SX-76 and Section 16.2 of GO 26-D, City is granted a temporary deviation from GO 26-D, Section 2.1 and is authorized a temporary overhead clearance of not less than 21 feet above the top of the highest rail to the lowest of point on the overhead structure during construction.

The Commission's Rail Crossings and Engineering Branch (RCEB) investigated the request filed by City and finds it adequately addresses compliance and safety. As City and UPRR are in agreement as to the design and apportionments of the cost under the provisions of GO 88-B, the improvements as described in your request dated August 13, 2015, and summarized above are authorized.

This project is statutorily exempt from the requirements of the California Environment Quality Act of 1970, as amended [California Pubic Resources Code 21080.13].

This authorization shall expire if the above conditions are not complied with or if the work is not completed within three years of the date of this letter. Upon written request to RCEB, the time to complete the project may be extended. Any written request for a time extension must include concurrence letters by involved parties in support of the time extension. If an extension is requested, RCEB may re-evaluate the crossing prior to granting an extension.

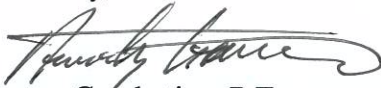
City shall notify UPRR and the Los Angeles Office of the Commission's Safety Enforcement Division – Rail Operations Safety Branch (ROSB) and Rail Crossings and Engineering Branch at least 15 days but not more than 30 days in advance of the date when the City will create the temporary reduced vertical clearance. For the Commission, this notification may be submitted electronically to rceb@cpuc.ca.gov.

Within 30 days after completion of this project, City shall notify RCEB that the authorized work is completed, by submitting a completed Commission Standard Form G titled *Report of Changes at Highway Grade Crossings and Separations*. Form G requirements and forms can be obtained at the Commission web site at <http://www.cpuc.ca.gov/PUC/safety/Rail/Crossings/formg.htm>. This report may be submitted electronically to rceb@cpuc.ca.gov.

At the conclusion of the project, UPRR shall submit an updated Federal Railroad Administration (FRA) inventory form to the FRA, reflecting the changes. Commission requests a concurrent copy of the updated inventory form be submitted to rceb@cpuc.ca.gov.

If you have any questions, please contact Sergio Licon at (213) 576-7085 or sal@cpuc.ca.gov .

Sincerely,



Anton Garabetian, P.E.
Program and Project Supervisor
Rail Crossings and Engineering Branch
Safety and Enforcement Division

cc: **(SENT VIA E-MAIL)**
Chris Keckeisen, UPRR